

[23 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Constitution of Empowered Action Group

4002. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Empowered Action Group for dealing with problematic States regarding population rise has since been constituted;
- (b) if so, the names of the members of the group; and
- (c) if not, by when it is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Empowered Action Group has been constituted in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the chairmanship of the Minister for Health and Family Welfare on 20th March, 2001.

(b) The following are the Members of the Empowered Action Group:

1. Minister for Health and Family Welfare — *Chairman*
2. Minister of State of Health and Family Welfare
3. Secretary, Department of Family Welfare
4. Secretary, Department of Health
5. Secretary, Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy
6. Secretary, Department of Elementary Education & Literacy
7. Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development
8. Secretary, Department of Rural Development
9. Director General of Health Services
10. Project Director, National AIDS Control Organisation
11. Principal Secretary/Secretary (Health & Family Welfare) of the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Jharkhand.
12. Additional Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance
13. Adviser (Health), Planning Commission

14. Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
15. Joint Secretary (Reproductive and Child Health), Department of Family Welfare.
16. Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research.
17. Director, National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi.
18. Director, International Institute of Population Sciences, Mumbai.
19. Executive Director, Voluntary Health Association of India.
20. President, Family Planning Association of India.
21. Joint Secretary (Policy), Department of Family Welfare—Convenor.

(c) Does not arise.

Spread of Jaundice in the Country

***4003. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that people are suffering from jaundice due to consumption of contaminated water in many parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to take some concrete steps to check this disease; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) Jaundice is prevalent in many parts of the Country despite steps being taken for its prevention. Jaundice is caused by hepatitis A,B,C,D,E and G viruses. Viral Hepatitis A and E are transmitted by contaminated water, food and poor personal hygiene. The control measures for Hepatitis A and E are directed towards provision of safe water supply, improvement of environmental sanitation, food and personal

*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.